

Our Ref: JDH

July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Returning to school in September

Further to the information provided in the most recent newsletter I am writing with greater detail regarding the arrangements for your child's return to full time education at Selwood in September 2020. I am sorry if this letter seems very direct in tone and slightly impersonable but it is crucial that the safety messages are shared clearly for you.

Although the government have declared to all parents via the media that all children will return to school during September they did not share the framework restrictions necessary to ensure the health and safety of all pupils and staff working in schools widely. This was sent direct to schools in a very large and detailed document the following day which parents may wish to view via the following link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

Most importantly I need to advise that if your child or any of your family is experiencing Covid symptoms you should notify the school immediately and keep your child at home until test results have been received as negative or NHS advise it is safe to return.

There are therefore a number of changes that will need to occur from September and I have listed them in briefest form to help you and your child prepare for the new term.

1) The start time of school will be staggered:

- Year 5 will enter at 8.40am (no earlier please) using the bus loop entrance.
- Year 6 will enter at 8.40am (no earlier please) using the Cheese Show field entrance .
- Year 7 will enter at 8.55am (no earlier please) using the Cheese Show field entrance.
- Year 8 will enter at 8.55am (no earlier please) using the bus loop entrance.
- Children will go **straight to tutor rooms** on arrival (not remaining outside in the playground), sanitising their hands at the appropriate stations before entering the building.
- Children arriving by bus will go **straight to tutor rooms** upon arrival at school whatever year group, remembering to sanitise before entering the building
- Children in Year 7 and 8 escorting younger siblings in Year 5 and 6 to school arrive at 8.40am through the eldest child's entrance.

'Let your light shine before others' Matthew 5 v 16
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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility - Selwood Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.

2) The end of school will be staggered:

- Year 5 and 6 will leave school at 3.00pm (unless using buses or waiting for older siblings).
- Year 7 and 8 will leave at 3.10pm.
- Children in Years 5 and 6 waiting for older siblings to walk home with, will remain on site until collected from the playground at 3.10pm and leave through the eldest child's exit.
- Parents escorting their children must ensure that they know exactly where they are delivering / collecting their children from. Only 1 adult per family group at the school gates please.
- It will not be possible to operate a zebra crossing service due to social distancing requirements. Please ensure your child knows how to cross a road safely.

NB: The bus loop entrance is for pupil entry and exit on foot only. **For safety purposes, no cars may enter this space or the school car park or park briefly to drop children off, it is not safe.** The football club is for pick up /drop off by car. Parents may wish to walk their child to the bus loop entrance in order to ensure safe road crossing. Social distancing measures will be in place for when children are collected in person.

- 3) Children will be allowed to bring in coats, hats, 3G boots in named boot bag, stationary, pencil case, school bag, packed lunchbox, reading book, small hand sanitiser and water bottle but additional equipment will be limited.
- 4) We do not wish to ban mobile phones in school at this stage however, I **do not** recommend sending your child in with a mobile phone. Mobile phones can only be brought in at parents/child's own risk. They cannot not be kept safe by staff. They would have to remain in children's bags, switched off all day (which will be unattended in empty classrooms due to break and lunchtimes). Pupils will only turn them on offsite. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the phone being confiscated and parents will be asked to collect them after school hours under strict visiting school site regulations. Thank you for your understanding.
- 5) Children will use sanitiser provided whenever they enter school buildings, they will wash hands regularly and sanitise throughout the day as instructed and before returning home at the end of the day.
- 6) Playtimes will be staggered so that year groups of children do not mix during these times.
- 7) Children will be taught in tutor groups spaced in Year group zones around the school site.
- 8) To maintain infection control measures, each Year group bubble of pupils will not mix or mingle with any other Year groups during the school day except in certain circumstances which permit due to social distancing measures being in place supervised by staff.
- 9) Staff will move from classroom to classroom, children will remain static with the exception of PE lessons initially.
- 10) Whilst children are not required to maintain a 2m distance with each other they will need to remain 2m distanced from all adults at all times.
- 11) Pupils will not be required to wear uniform initially, the guidelines for this changed most recently and after we had advised Year 5 parents that mufti should be worn for Term 1. Supplies for uniform are gradually returning. We will keep parents informed and potentially uniform may be re introduced after the October half term if possible. Plenty of notice will be provided.
- 12) **3G footwear is essential.** All children will use the 3G for playtime and PE lessons and will need to bring these in to change into at school. Other comfortable and safe shoes are to be worn at all other times. Comfortable clothes on PE days are advised.
- 13) Where appropriate, school staff will be wearing PPE for first aid support.
- 14) Pupils are currently not expected to wear facemasks (this guidance may be subject to yet more change given the latest information this week).

- 15) "Kill it, catch it, bin it " continues
- 16) Regular cleaning of rooms and resources will take place throughout the day in addition to the deep cleaning.
- 17) Pupils will be required to eat a packed lunch in their classroom. A hot meal service is not available at present, pupils in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a packed lunch.
- 18) It will not be possible to operate a zebra crossing service due to social distancing requirements. Please ensure your child knows how to cross a road safely.
- 19) Please report absences in the usual way. Somerset County Council have advised us to inform you that pupils from September are expected to be in school and that the regulations regarding attendance below 95% will be re instated from September 1st.
- 20) Your child's new tutor room will be as follows.

Year 5	Mr C Pipe (Head of Year)	RM	Year 6	Miss R Hill (Head of Year)	RM
5F	S Cartwright	B2	6F	L Lawyer	G5
5R	J Prouse	B1	6R	N Corre	H10
5M	C Ibbitson/ C Pipe	B6	6M	C Pitts	H9
5E	O Littlewood	B3	6E	L Phillips/ E Caldwell	RC
5S	N Proud	BH	6S	S Wilkie	G8
5L	J Pearce	B4	6L	C Hudson	F8
5W	A Edwards	B5			
Year 7	Mrs F Hughes (Head of Year)	RM	Year 8	Mr F Sharp (Head of Year)	RM
7F	K Preston	F1	8F	C Owen	C5
7R	L Parfitt	F4	8R	A March	C4
7M	K Evans- Bentley	F2	8M	M George / F Sharp	C2
7E	J Howell	F6	8E	L Copleston	C3
7S	E Bell/ E Caldwell	F3	8S	E Hampson	C6
7L	R Sage	F7	8L	D Nadin	C1

I appreciate this is a lot of information to take in initially but discussing this with your child prior to starting will enable them to prepare effectively. **Dates for return for each Year group have been shared via the latest newsletter, which is available on the website.**

Parents unfortunately will not be able to come onto the site without prior arrangement and I appreciate for new Year 5 parents this presents its own challenges when dropping your child off for the first time.

All tutors will be at the school gates to meet your children at the allocated time but they will not be able to have individual conversations with parents due to social distancing measures. If you are anxious in any way or have information you need to update us with please e mail your child's tutor directly on 3rd or 4th September when they will be in school for in service training and can make contact via email or telephone before your child's first day.

And finally..... please could you provide a reading book for your child for the first couple of weeks of term. We are keen to ensure that reading receives utmost focus to enable children to re engage with their learning after the summer break and the library service at school will not be available in the early weeks.

Wishing you a restful summer, if at all possible.



**Mrs J Hopegood
Headteacher**